UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/776
17 December 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 136

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTION FORCE

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) (A/C.5/48/40, paras. 47-53).

2. The Secretary-General estimates the cost of maintaining UNPROFOR for the period from 1 July 1993 to 31 March 1994 at $897,980,900 gross ($891,993,300 net), which is $502,980,900 gross more than the amount of $395,000,000 gross already authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/210 B of 14 September 1993 for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1993.

3. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimate of $897,980,900 gross represents a monthly rate of approximately $99.8 million gross, which compares to the rate of $65 million gross per month for the period from 1 October to 31 December 1993 authorized by the Assembly (see A/C.5/48/40, para. 47). The Advisory Committee further notes that the estimate takes into account the increase in UNPROFOR's strength and additional operational requirements of the mission's mandate previously authorized by the Security Council in its resolutions 842 (1993), 844 (1993) of 18 June 1993 and 847 (1993) of 30 June 1993, but not provided for in the above-mentioned authorization of $395,000.

4. As stated in paragraph 50 of the Secretary-General's report, the estimate also provides an additional post at the Assistant Secretary-General level. This relates to the Secretary-General's "decision to separate the functions of Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia and Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia because of the pressing demands of both functions ... In order to implement the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the post of Under-Secretary-General, which had been occupied at the Assistant Secretary-General level by the Force Commander, will be utilized". The additional

Assistant Secretary-General post is therefore needed for the Force Commander. The Advisory Committee does not object to this proposal.

5. For the reasons given in paragraph 52 of the Secretary-General's report, the Secretary-General projects increased monthly requirements for the period beyond 31 March 1994; consequently he requests the appropriation and apportionment of the amount of $606,714,800 gross ($603,214,000 net) for the period from 1 July 1993 to 30 April 1994. This amount is exclusive of the amount of $395,000,000 gross already authorized and assessed by the General Assembly.

6. Bearing in mind that it will consider the Secretary-General's full budget report (A/48/690) at its February 1994 session, the Advisory Committee is of the view that commitment authority and assessment for the period through 31 March 1994 should be sufficient. Taking into account the high vacancy rate for civilian personnel (39 per cent for international staff and 28 per cent for local staff), the Advisory Committee recommends that, in addition to the existing commitment authority of $395 million through 31 December 1993, the Secretary-General be authorized to enter into further commitments of up to $450,000,000 gross ($446 million net) until 31 March 1994 and that this amount be assessed.